

August 14, 2006

News Release

Michigan man arraigned for child pornography

JACKSON, Mich. – A bus driver for Jackson City Schools was arraigned in the 12th judicial district court Friday for possession of child pornography, the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in conjunction with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.

Steven Flick, 57, of the 3300 block of Blue Lane in Summit Township turned himself in to police Thursday and is facing one count of possession of child pornography. He was arraigned in district court and released on a personal-recognizance bond.

The investigation by ICE agents revealed that Flick had worked as a bus driver for 25 years, taught music lessons privately in his home, directed a choir at a local church, and mentored children though the Big Sisters program.

ICE agents, with assistance from Jackson County Sheriff's Deputies, executed a search warrant at Flick's residence, where they seized a computer, videotapes, DVDs, floppy disks and documents. A forensic examination conducted on the seized computer revealed 704 images of prepubescent children and 12,000 images of suspected child pornography.

"This case reveals the disturbing truth that some adults will go to great lengths to sexually exploit children," said Brian M. Moskowitz, special agent-in-charge of the ICE Office of Investigations covering Michigan and Ohio. "While we cannot restore innocence to those who were abused and exploited, we can make sure that justice is served. The cooperative efforts of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office will ensure that justice is served on behalf of the victims."

This case is part of Operation Predator, ICE's comprehensive initiative to safeguard children from foreign national pedophiles, international sex tourists, Internet child pornographers, and human traffickers. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 8,400 individuals nationwide, including 202 in Michigan.

ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock. Suspected

Page 1 of 2 www.ice.gov

child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or http://www.cybertipline.com.

Flick is scheduled to appear for his preliminary examination Aug. 21 before 12th District Judge Charles Falahee.

The case is being prosecuted by the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.